

**Fire Department** 

Contact:

William Wentlandt Chief Mark A. Sain Assistant Chief

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE: June 13, 2006 NEWS RELEASE # 06-28 Lieutenant Brian O 'Connor PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER 414-286-8968 (OFFICE) 414-397-8591 (CELL) brian.oconnor@milfire.com

## MEDIA ADVISORY AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION AWARD

WHEN: 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, Tuesday, June 13, 2006

WHERE: Italian Conference Center, 631 East Chicago Street

DETAILS: The American Heart Association will be presenting Chief William Wentlandt and the Milwaukee Fire Department a "Heart-Healthy, Stroke-Safe Community Award" for the public Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) Program the department implemented. The Milwaukee Fire Department, in cooperation with Alderman Michael Murphy, has supplied public buildings with AEDs to be used in emergencies since 2000. Currently there are 40 AEDs that have been distributed by the department in public buildings.

In the event of a heart attack, it is important that defibrillation be given as early as possible. The sooner definitive care is given the better the chances are for survival. The Milwaukee Fire Department currently has one of the highest resuscitation rates of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest victims in the country.

The Milwaukee Fire Department is committed to providing the best emergency medical care possible for the citizens and visitors of Milwaukee. <u>USA TODAY</u> has rated the department 's EMS program third in the nation; it is the aim of the Milwaukee Fire Department to become number one.